Cacoecimorpha pronubana (Hb.) (Lep.: Tortricidae) in a Dublin glasshouse

In October 2004, JPOC received for identification several live moths in a bottle. They had been sent by Dr Paul Cusack of the College of Amenity Horticulture in the National Botanic Gardens, Dublin City (grid reference O 1437) where they were infesting a glasshouse in large numbers, being particularly attracted to parsley. Using Bradley, Tremewan & Smith (1973, British Tortricoid Moths. Ray Society), they were identified as the carnation tortrix Cacoecimorpha pronubana (Hübner). This determination was confirmed by KGMB. This polyphagous moth, which is a naturalised adventive, is now widespread in Britain after being first found on the Sussex coast circa 1900 (Bradley, 2000. Checklist of Lepidoptera recorded from the British Isles, Second Edition (Revised), privately published). By contrast, in Ireland, the species was previously only known from two published records. In 1987, a female was caught on a moving bus in Cork City in south-west Ireland (Bond, 1988. Irish Naturalists' Journal 22: 454). Subsequently in 1989, several tortrix larvae were found feeding on the leaves of cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus L. in Co Dublin. An adult was reared, confirming it as C. pronubana (Bond & Good, 1989. Irish Naturalists' Journal 23: 153). In 1992, from 22 May to 20 August, KGMB observed four further adults at Douglas (W7169) south-east of Cork City. Since C. pronubana is a well known pest of greenhouses elsewhere (Buczacki & Harris, 1983, Collins shorter guide to the pests, diseases and disorders of garden plants, Collins, London; Hill, 1987. Agricultural insect pests of temperate regions and their control, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge), it is perhaps surprising, that it has taken fourteen years since its discovery in Ireland, to become established in a glass-house. Voucher specimens have been deposited in the National Museum of Ireland.— J. P. O'CONNOR, National Museum of Ireland Kildare Street, Dublin 2, Ireland and K. G. M. BOND, Department of Zoology and Animal Ecology, University College Cork, Lee Maltings Prospect Row, Cork, Ireland.

Final call for Hertfordshire moth records

I am now in the middle of preparing text and distribution maps for the proposed publication on the moths of Hertfordshire. This is the last chance for anyone who has information, no matter how old, to have it included. I am especially interested in older records (pre-1995) from the famous Broxbourne Woods complex – a long time favourite of many collectors and now the county's only National Nature Reserve. From here are the last known county records of many rarer species such as *Hemaris fuciformis* (L) – the Broad-bordered Bee Hawk-moth (last recorded in 1973) and *Cnaemidophorus rhododactyla* (D.& S.) – the scarce plume moth that is associated with wild rose – last recorded in 1980. Can you update these or any other Hertfordshire records? I need macro and micro data for the whole county for any period in History.— Colin W. Plant, 14 West Road, Bishops Stortford, Hertfordshire CM23 3QP (E-mail: cpauk1@ntlworld.com).